

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 CSC-01 OPR-02 /031 W
-----141849Z 064981 /44

R 141059Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4066
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMEMBASSY KABUL

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS

REF: A. STATE 129711 B. CALCUTTA 1373 (NOTAL)
C. BOMBAY 1332 (NOTAL) D. BOMBAY 1347 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE BOOKED THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF ROOMS AT THE
ASHOKA HOTEL FOR THE WHITE HOUSE FELLOWS AND BEGUN
ARRANGING THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:

2. FOR JULY 7-9, WE PLAN AN EMBASSY BRIEFING AFTER
LUNCH ON JULY 7. WE ARE REQUESTING FROM THE GOI
APPOINTMENTS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, THE FOREIGN SEC-
RETARY AND SENIOR PEOPLE IN THE MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS, FINANCE, AND DEFENSE, AND THE PLANNING
COMMISSION. WE ARE ALSO ARRANGING FOR THE GROUP TO
ATTEND A SESSION OF PARLIAMENT AND WE WILL SEEK TO SET
UP MEETINGS WITH PRO-GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION FIGURES
THERE.

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3. REGARDING THE VISIT TO AGRA AND TRANSPORTATION TO
BOMBAY (PARA 6 REF A), TRAVEL VIA JAIPUR IS NOT FEASIBLE
SINCE THE FELLOWS WOULD ARRIVE IN JAIPUR TOO LATE TO
TOUR THE CITY AND WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE VERY EARLY IN THE
MORNING FOR A MILK-RUN FLIGHT THAT WOULD NOT PUT THEM
INTO BOMBAY UNTIL 10:45 AM JULY 11. WE SEE TWO CHOICES
FOR THE FELLOWS: (A) TRAVEL TO AGRA JULY 10 BY

ROUND-TRIP RENTED BUS AND FLY DIRECT DELHI TO BOMBAY JULY 11 VIA IC-482 ARRIVING AT 1110 HOURS; (B) MAINTAINING PRESENT SCHEDULE OF ROUND-TRIP FLIGHT TO AGRA AND DELHI/BOMBAY FLIGHT THE EVENING OF JULY 10.

4. THE ADVANTAGES OF TRIP BY AIR-CONDITIONED BUS (WHICH CAN BE RENTED FOR APPROXIMATELY THE SAME COST AS THE 18 ROUND-TRIP AIRLINE TICKETS TO AGRA) IS THAT WE COULD PROGRAM THE FELLOWS FOR A BRIEF VISIT TO SEE SOMETHING OF RURAL INDIA AND ITS VILLAGES. BY LEAVING BY BUS EARLY IN THE MORNING FOR THE 120- MILE TRIP TO AGRA, THE FELLOWS WOULD HAVE THE AFTERNOON TO VIEW THE TAJ MAHAL AND THE FORT AND LEAVE EARLY IN THE EVENING FOR THE THREE-HOUR DRIVE BACK TO DELHI AND THEIR HOTEL ROOMS.

5. HOWEVER, FELLOWS SHOULD REALIZE THAT THIS OPTION WILL SERIOUSLY CURTAIL THEIR VISIT IN BOMBAY. AMCONSUL BOMBAY HAD PROPOSED THAT THE FELLOWS HAVE A BRIEFING AT THEIR HOTEL ON THE EVENING OF JULY 10, THEN SPEND THE NEXT DAY AND A HALF IN THE FOLLOWING PROGRAM:

(1) TALKS WITH IAEC REGARDING INDIA'S ATOMIC PROGRAM;
(2) A FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO EITHER TARAPUR ATOMIC POWER STATION OR BHABHA ATOMIC RESEARCH CENTER (BARC) AT BOMBAY;

(3) DISCUSSION ON URBANIZATION PROBLEMS WITH CIDCO (CITY AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MAHARASHTRA) AND RELATED VISIT TO CITY OF NEW BOMBAY.

6. IF THE FELLOWS OPT FOR A LATE MORNING ARRIVAL JULY 11, THEIR BOMBAY PROGRAM WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED. BECAUSE OF THE LATE OFFICE OPENINGS IN BOMBAY, THE LATE LUNCH HOURS AND THE DISTANCES INVOLVED BETWEEN PROSPECTIVE APPOINTMENTS, THEY WOULD BE LIMITED TO ONE ACTIVITY THE AFTERNOON OF JULY 11--THE VISIT TO THE IAEC--AND ONE ACTIVITY THE MORNING OF JULY 12--EITHER THE VISIT TO THE ATOMIC FACILITY OR THE DISCUSSIONS AT CIDCO. THEY WOULD BE OBLIGED TO FOREGO THE THIRD ACTIVITY. GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE NUCLEAR QUESTIONS AND OF BOMBAY AS A MAJOR URBAN AND BUSINESS CENTER OF INDIA, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT THE FELLOWS ADHERE TO THEIR ORIGINAL SCHEDULE OF FLYING TO AGRA AND GOING TO BOMBAY FROM DELHI THE EVENING OF JULY 10. MOREOVER, IF THEIR SCHEDULE PERMITTED, WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE A BRIEF VISIT TO A VILLAGE ON SATURDAY, JULY 9. (GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINTS AND THE

FACT THAT THE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULES OF THE SENIOR LEADERS THEY ARE HOPING TO MEET IN NEW DELHI ARE OFTEN INFLEXIBLE, WE CAN'T BE SURE THIS WILL BE POSSIBLE.)

5. REGARDING THE VISIT TO CALCUTTA, THE CONGEN HAS PROPOSED THAT, IN VIEW OF THE LATE ARRIVAL AND THE UNCERTAINTY OF AIRLINE SCHEDULES, AN INFORMAL DINNER BE HELD JULY 12 WITH MEMBERS OF THE CONGEN STAFF TO BRIEF THE FELLOWS ON URBAN AND OTHER PROBLEMS IN CALUCUTTA. THE MORNING OF JULY 13, BEFORE LEAVING FOR DACCA, THE FELLOWS COULD BE GIVEN A BRIEFING BY A CALCUTTA METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OFFICIAL AND TAKEN ON A TOURKOF A BUSTEE (SLUM) IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND ONE OF MOTHER THERESA'S HOMES, IF THEY SO WISH.

6. PLEASE ADVISE FELLOWS' VIEWS RE AGRA/BOMBAY
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CHOICE AND OTHER PROGRAM ASPECTS TO THAT WE MAY PROCEED WITH SCHEDULING.
GOHEEN

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